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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Norway

INFO.

SUBJECT Moral Rearmament Organization

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- 1. In the I would war, however, the movement declined and almost anew. The persons responsible for the renarment are two non-Norwegians, Dr. Jimmi Cooper of Gabelsgt. 45, and Randolf Haslund of Njaalvei 18, Jar. Another foreigner who has worked for the organization in Norway is Eddy Wellington, who came in the summer of 1951.
- 2. Present indications are that the persons mentioned above will be replaced by a number of younger Norwegians who are comparatively recent members of the organization. These are: Waldemar Hansteen, Jr., of Stavanger, Einar Engebretsen of Oslo, Jens J. Wilhelmsen of Tonsberg, (fnu) Mannsaaker, a theology student, and (fnu) Hovelsrud, a theology student.
- 3. Moral Rearmament has its strongest following in the Oslo district. Its most prominent members in this area are:

Rector Sten Bugge, Jegerveien 11, Riis Director Knut Isachsen, Wilhelm Faerdensveg 2 B Ex. Director Kanrad Magnus, Vingolfsvei 27, Jare Engineer (fnu) Major, Kirkeveien Professor Eiliv Skard, Gabelsgt. 48

a. Outside of Oslo, the most prominent figures are:

Salve Salvesen, a secretary in the central trade council and the leader of MRA in Kristiansand Waldemar Hansteen, Jr., of Stavanger (mentioned above)

Director (fnu) Sundt of Tangens Gardinfabrikk in Bergen.

4. One of the tasks the Moral Rearmament organization has set itself is the "conversion" of Communists, and in Norway the movement has established an apparatus for this purpose. How much progress has been made in this direction is not known, exactly, but a few "conversion" cases can be cited.

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- 5. The most prominent is the case of Hans H. Bjerkholt, born 23 November 1892 in Skjeberg, near Sarpsborg. Bjerkholt is secretary of the Østfold central trade council and has been an active Communist and a member of the Executive Committee of the Party for many years. Recently he joined the Moral Rearmament movement, and took with him into the movement his family and several friends. He continues, however, to see all his old Party friends, who in turn continue to work with him. He has not been denounced or abused in the Communist press.
- 6. Another known Communist who has joined Moral Rearmament is Adolf Jahrmann Mangen, born 18 April 1916. Mangen has been union chairman at Thune Mekaniske Verksted, Oslo, and is now chairman of the production committee at the firm. He was once a very active member of the Norwegian Communist Party. In the summer of 1951 he visited Caux and there became interested in the Moral Rearmament movement. He is now active in the movement. Mangen is described as a sincere and serious man.
- 7. A third example is that of Einar With, born 11 December 1914, chairman of the Jern og Metallarbeiderforbundets (Iron-Metal Workers Union) Executive Committee in Stavanger. With went to Caux in 1950. Later he attended an MRA meeting in Kristiansand and became interested in the movement. In the summer of 1950 he left the NKP and is now engaged in converting Communist Party members in Stavanger. With is considered a very able trade union man.
- 8. It is not known whether the NKP is attempting to infiltrate its members into the MRA. The possibility cannot be ignored, as this would be in line with Communist tactics in general. It must be remembered, however, that the NKP has still to recover from the weakness caused by the split in the Party in 1949.

